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they were getting in the pre-merger State. The absorbed personnel were ordered to be on probation for a period of one year in the respective categories in which they were absorbed.

The members of the clerical staff of the former Pudukkottai Police Office were also absorbed in the Madras Police Department from 1st January 1949. The Manager of the former Pudukkottai Police Office was absorbed as upper division clerk in the District Police Office, Tiruchirappalli, as a preliminary to his being promoted as an Accountant. The upper division clerks, lower division and typist of the Pudukottai Police Office have been absorbed in corresponding ranks.

The pay of all the personnel absorbed, both executive and ministerial, has been fixed in the Madras scales of pay which are more advantageous with effect from 1st January 1949 and in fixing their pay, weightage has been given for the service in the former State. The seniority of all the personnel has been fixed in accordance with the instructions issued by Government. Cases of the former State employees are invariably considered for promotions along with those of others in the district, according to seniority and merit."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Were they allowed to draw the Madras scales of pay from 1st January 1949, the date of absorption?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" They have been absorbed from 1st January 1949 and certainly they would have been allowed to draw the pay. There might have been some time lag in giving effect to the order."

Location of the Local Board High School, Palamaner.

* 297 *Q.*—SRI B. KRISHNAMURTHY RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any representation received by the Government of Madras, from the District Board, Chittoor, requesting to give away the Public Works Department buildings of Palamaner to the Local Board High School; and

(*b*) if so, in what stage the proposal lies?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" (*a*) A representation has been received from the Chittoor District Board for the permanent transfer to it of the Public Works Department inspection bungalow at Palamaner, which has been leased to it temporarily for five years from 1949, for the use of the Local Board High School.

" (*b*) The matter is under consideration."

SRI K. VARADACHARI :—" Is the Education Department putting sufficient pressure on the Public Works Department and is there a chance of this building being transferred for the use of the High School at least from the next academic year?"

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THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" The Education Department has requested that this building may be given over to the District Board for the use of the High School. But there are other factors also to be taken into consideration."

SRI T. N. VENKATASUBBA REDDI :—" May I bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister that this inspection bungalow was the old shooting lodge of His Excellency the Governor, that the building is now used as an inspection bungalow because the present day Governors do not go for shooting and that the Chittoor District Board is prepared to place its travellers bungalow at the disposal of the Public Works Department? Will the Government be pleased to give this building for the High School in the next academic year? "

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" So far as the previous history of the building is concerned, I take the information from the hon. Member. I must state that the cost of the Public Works inspection bungalow is about Rs. 40,500 excluding the cost of the land, and the cost of the land is about Rs. 9,580. The cost of the District Board inspection bungalow, which is proposed to be given to the Public Works Department, is only about Rs. 10,500. The point whether the District Board will be willing to pay the difference in price will have to be considered. In addition to that, I may also submit that there is a section of opinion which is not in favour of the transfer at present."

SRI K. VARADACHARI :—" Is there any chance of the building being given for the use of the High School from the next academic year? "

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" The building has already been leased to the Chittoor District Board temporarily for five years from 1949."

Number of departmental tractors and bulldozers stationed at Cuddapah.

* 298 Q.—SRI P. VENKATASUBBIAH :—" Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) the number of departmental tractors and bulldozers stationed at Cuddapah;

(b) the area reclaimed by the use of these machines in the district; and

(c) the number of ryots who have made use of these machines in the Cuddapah district on the hire system in the year 1952 up to now?"

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" (a) There are 9 departmental tractors in Cuddapah district of which 5 are provided with bulldozer equipment.